1875 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20006

March 17, 2011

By Hand Delivery

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman
The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Donald B. Verrilli Jr. for the Position of Solicitor General

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We have served as Solicitors General in the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, William Clinton, and George W. Bush. We write in strong support of the nomination of Donald Verrilli to become Solicitor General of the United States.

Some of us have worked alongside Mr. Verrilli as co-counsel; some of us have appeared opposite him in cases; all of us are familiar with his work, his demeanor, and his well-deserved reputation as a leading member of the Supreme Court bar. We believe Mr. Verrilli is ideally suited to carry out the crucial tasks assigned to the Solicitor General and to maintain the traditions of the Office the Solicitor General.

Mr. Verrilli's long experience representing a wide array of clients, in combination with his recent experience serving in senior positions in government, render him particularly well qualified to address the range of legal issues over which the Solicitor General is responsible on behalf of the United States. His well-deserved, stellar reputation as both a writer and oral advocate, and his deeply ingrained civility and dedication to the rule of law will well serve all three branches of government. We wholeheartedly endorse his confirmation.

E.Z.

Charles Fried (1985-1989)

Kenneth W. Starr (1989-1993)

Drew S. Days III (1993-1996)

Walter E. Dellinger III (1996-1997)

Seth P. Waxman (1997-2001)

Theodore B. Olson (2001-2004) Paul D. Clement (2004-2008)

Gregory G. Garre (2008-2009)